

A resolution (S. Res. 131) to express the sense of the Senate regarding the provision of technical assistance in the restoration of the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi.

Mr. DOMENICI. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statement relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 131) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution with its preamble reads as follows:

S. RES. 131

Whereas the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi is one of the finest examples of Italian Gothic art and architecture;

Whereas the Basilica is a living museum providing a home for the art of several great masters of the 13th and 14th centuries, and these art treasures depict scenes from the Old Testament and New Testament;

Whereas the Basilica housed the most interesting and important pictorial cycle in Franciscan iconography;

Whereas the famous fresco artist, Cimabue, began his work in the Basilica in 1277, and the works of Cimabue are seen in the apse and the vault of the Basilica and include a lovely Madonna with Child;

Whereas Cimabue's pupil, Giotto painted frescos at the turn of the 14th century and completed 28 famous and beautiful scenes based on St. Bonaventure's account of St. Francis' major accomplishments during his life. The frescos depict the life of St. Francis who had the special gift of understanding and being able to speak to animals;

Whereas other talented artists including Simone Martini and Pietro Lorenzetti left their artistic mark on the Basilica during the first half of the 14th century, frescoing the left side of the transept of the Lower Church;

Whereas the Basilica was severely damaged by twin earthquakes on September 24 and 25, 1997, the extent of which has been described as more devastating than the World War II bombings of Padua and Pisa in 1944;

Whereas the famous frescoes painted by Giotto on the side walls of the Basilica in the early 14th century and depicting scenes from St. Francis' life are cracked but mostly intact;

Whereas experts in Italy are already working to restore the Basilica; and

Whereas the National Gallery in London and the Louvre in Paris have offered experts free of charge to help in the restoration of the Basilica: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Smithsonian Institution, the National Gallery of Art and any of the other premier art museums in the United States having pertinent expertise in restoration should provide technical assistance to aid in the restoration of the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi and the works of art that have been damaged in the earthquakes.

PRINTING OF A COLLECTION OF RULES AND AUTHORITIES OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATORY COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 132, submitted earlier today by Senator WARNER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 132) to authorize the printing of a collection of rules and authorities of special investigatory committees of the Senate.

Mr. DOMENICI. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statement relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 132) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 132

Resolved, That a collection of rules and authorities of special investigatory committees of the Senate, be printed as a Senate document, and there be printed additional copies of such document up to, but not exceeding, \$1,200 for use of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

MILES LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 1997

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 159, S. 590.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 590) to provide for a land exchange involving certain land within the Routt National Forest in the State of Colorado.

Mr. DOMENICI. I ask unanimous consent the bill be considered read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was considered read the third time and passed as follows:

S. 590

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Miles Land Exchange Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. LAND EXCHANGE, ROUTT NATIONAL FOREST, COLORADO.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF EXCHANGE.—If the parcel of non-Federal land described in subsection (b) is conveyed to the United States in accordance with this section, the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey to the person that conveys the parcel all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of Federal land consisting of approximately 84 acres within the Routt National Forest in the State of Colorado, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Miles Land Exchange," Routt National Forest, dated May 1996.

(b) PARCEL OF NON-FEDERAL LAND.—The parcel of non-Federal land referred to in subsection (a) consists of approximately 84 acres, known as the "Miles parcel", located adjacent to the Routt National Forest, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Miles Land Exchange", Routt National Forest, dated May 1996.

(c) ACCEPTABLE TITLE.—Title to the non-Federal land conveyed to the United States under subsection (a) shall be such title as is acceptable to the Secretary of Agriculture, in conformance with title approval standards applicable to Federal land acquisitions.

(d) VALID EXISTING RIGHTS.—The conveyance shall be subject to such valid existing rights of record as may be acceptable to the Secretary.

(e) APPROXIMATELY EQUAL VALUE.—The values of the Federal land and non-Federal land to be exchanged under this section are deemed to be approximately equal in value, and no additional valuation determinations are required.

(f) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Secretary shall process the land exchange authorized by this section in the manner provided in subpart A of part 254 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act).

(g) MAPS.—The maps referred to in subsections (a) and (b) shall be on file and available for inspection in the office of the Forest Supervisor, Routt National Forest, and in the office of the Chief of the Forest Service.

(h) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—

(1) INCLUSION IN ROUTT NATIONAL FOREST.—On approval and acceptance of title by the Secretary, the non-Federal land conveyed to the United States under this section shall become part of the Routt National Forest and shall be managed in accordance with the laws (including regulations) applicable to the National Forest System, and the boundaries of the Routt National Forest shall be adjusted to reflect the land exchange.

(2) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—For purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-9), the boundaries of the Routt National Forest, as adjusted by this section, shall be considered to be the boundaries of the Routt National Forest as of January 1, 1965.

(i) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyances under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

NATIONAL GRASSLANDS CONSOLIDATION ACT

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, Calendar No. 184, S. 750. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the above-stated calendar and bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 750) to consolidate certain mineral interests in the National Grasslands in Billings County, North Dakota, through the exchange of Federal and private mineral interests to enhance land management capabilities and environmental and wildlife protection, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following: